



Hungry for Change

April 2019



News from the Hoosier Hills Food Bank

2333 W Industrial Park Dr / P.O. Box 697 / Bloomington, IN 47402 / 812-334-8374 / www.hhfoodbank.org

Building on a Banner Year

At our annual meeting last month, we issued our 2018 Annual Report and described it as a “grand slam” year because we distributed a record 4,876,808 pounds of food, up 15% over the prior year and up 9% over our last record year. But we were careful to note that food insecurity and hunger were still formidable opponents and we are determined to keep working.

We’ve followed that up in 2019 with a first quarter (thru March 31) distribution of 1,138,751 pounds of food, up 9% over 2018. This includes 283,467 pounds of fresh produce, up a whopping 58% over the first quarter of 2018.

Both generous food donors and trade mitigation commodities are helping to boost the amount of food we have available and help us respond to unforeseen issues like the government shut down. And our staff is working hard to distribute more food quickly and effectively and to continue building our capacity to do so.

As you’ll see in the annual meeting story inside, we reported several exciting announcements recently including a substantial challenge grant that will enable us to replace a 31-year old vehicle with a new high capacity refrigerated box truck if we can meet it.

We have a successful MLK Day, 25th Anniversary Soup Bowl and annual meeting behind us and are looking forward to the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, Walmart Fight Hunger Spark Change and Bloomingfoods Positive Change campaigns, as well as preparing for our upcoming Feeding America compliance audit, Hunger Action Awards Reception and participation in summer events like the 4th of July Parade and County Fair.

But, we’re also facing the loss of our fantastic IU interns and a large source of our volunteer support as we enter a period that also usually means a decline in financial support. Summer has a lot of advantages, but it also brings some challenges.

We hope to have your continued support and we do all the things necessary to ensure that hunger is not an option in our community. Thank you for your help!

In this Issue: Stamp Out Hunger, Fight Hunger. Spark Change, Hunger Action Awards, Positive Change, IU Health Food Drive, IU Day, Goodbye Interns, Annual Meeting

GIVE ONLINE AT www.hhfoodbank.org



Stamp Out Hunger

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019



PUT YOUR NON-PERISHABLE DONATION IN A BAG BY YOUR MAILBOX. WE'LL DELIVER IT TO A LOCAL FOOD BANK.

Be sure to set out your non-perishable food donations before your carrier's normal pick up time on **Saturday, May 11th!**

If you are interested in bringing more awareness to the campaign, contact Ryan Jochim, and ask for a yard sign!



Fight Hunger. Spark Change.

Once again, we are thrilled to announce that Walmart will be running the Fight Hunger. Spark Change. promotion in 2019. The campaign will run April 22-May 20, 2019 at all Walmart and Sam's Club stores. Now in its sixth year, the campaign has raised nearly \$75 million to fight hunger, with the majority of funds benefiting local food banks. In fact, of the \$23.2 million raised in 2018, more than \$22 million was directed to network members!

There are several ways that **you** can help!

- 1) **Shop!** Each participating item purchased at Walmart or Sam's Club stores will unlock a donation equivalent to one meal secured by Feeding America.
One item = one meal
- 2) **Donate!** Customers can donate to HHFB at the registers of Walmart and Sam's Club stores. Donations of \$1, \$2, \$5 or another amount will be accepted. There is no limit to what can be raised at the register! 100% of funds will be directed to HHFB
- 3) **Spread the word, tell your story!** A new initiative this year provides HHFB the opportunity to win grant funding by raising awareness of local and national hunger issues and inspiring action in the community. You can help by telling us how HHFB has had a positive impact on you or someone you know. Storytelling is a powerful tool in the fight against hunger.



Save the Date!

HHFB is hosting the annual Hunger Action Awards Ceremony on June 11th at the IU Tudor Room.

Bloomingfoods Positive Change

Bloomingfoods “Positive Change” is a community-driven fundraising campaign that allows shoppers to round up their purchase to the nearest dollar, or donate more if they wish. Hoosier Hills will receive contributions from Positive Change for the entire month of May. The generous donations made through Positive Change are helping the food bank provide nutritious, fresh produce to our agencies.



IU Health and Southern Indiana Physicians

A huge thank you to IU Health and Southern Indiana Physicians who conducted a massive 50 barrel food drive, collecting a whopping 4,436 pounds of food! A big thank you to Manager of Volunteer and Visitor Services, Robin Mendyka, who organized the food drive benefiting Hoosier Hills Food Bank!



Indiana University Health



Southern Indiana Physicians



IU DAY

HHFB partnered with the IU Foundation to host a campus-wide food drive to celebrate IU Day. We placed 51 donation barrels in different buildings across campus and collected 1,326 pounds of food donated by IU students, faculty, and staff. We also partnered with IUSG for the IU Day Fair. We set up an information table and raised awareness of food insecurity issues on the IU campus. We had a great time spreading the HHFB mission and expect this partnership to become an IU Day tradition that will last for years to come.

Farewell Interns!



Steven Lee - Indiana Leadership Program Intern

Steven is graduating this May with a BS in Management. He will be returning to his home country of South Korea to serve in the military.

“I have loved my time working at HHFB. It feels good helping hungry people in the community get food that they really need. Passing out CSFP boxes I get to see how much impact HHFB is having. Everyone is so appreciative and grateful for what we are doing.”



Karina Gutierrez - Indiana Leadership Program Intern

Karina is finishing her junior year at IU, studying Non-profit leadership and Management. She will be spending part of her summer working and studying in Peru with a group from the IU Spanish Department.

“It was interesting to join the development team in a homerun year and see what obstacles can come up during various fundraising events even when an organization has strong community engagement. That said, the HHFB team can make the most challenging experiences enjoyable.”



Michael Etter - SPEA Serice Corps Programs Fellow

Michael is graduating this May with a Masters of Public Affairs and a Masters of Environmental Science. He will pursue a career in Indianapolis, working in the realm of economic and community development.

“The relationships I made with the HHFB staff and agencies we serve were truly rewarding as they are so passionate in working to alleviate hunger. It was exciting to work alongside such kind and motivated individuals.”



Carl Woody - SPEA Service Corps Development Fellow

Carl is graduating this May with a Masters of Public Affairs. He will pursue a career in Natural Resource Management and Conservation, working to protect and preserve this country’s wild and natural places.

“I loved the variety of work I was able to do at HHFB. Whether it was working on a monthly newsletter, going out on deliveries, or helping plan fundraising events, I knew that everything I was doing was helping to serve members of the community that really needed support.”

Meet **Jumbo**,
 Hoosier Hills Food Bank's
 Veteran, Hard Working Truck
 Born **1988**, Mileage **251,795**



Our goal: Retire and replace Jumbo with a new heavy payload box truck that will both expand our capacity and extend the life of our remaining fleet of three trucks.

Primary uses for the new truck:

- Fresh produce collection—Each trip to the Gleaners produce coop in Indy saves \$700-\$1,000 in outside transportation costs and enables us to get a variety of produce on our own schedule. We are forgoing opportunities for regular fresh produce because we don't have a reliable truck
- Gleaning—large quantities of fresh produce can be collected from our local farm partners
- Programs—often, we have to send 2 trucks because they're smaller or forgo taking fresh produce to distributions. We can reorganize and condense the dozen monthly food distributions of our mobile pantry and senior box programs, increasing efficiency with larger payload
- Regular food collections—Jumbo is regularly used for certain large local retail pick ups that we can't fit into our regular route because of time and/or space considerations.
- Major projects—provides another reliable vehicle for events like Hoosier Hysteria, Community Book Fair and Stamp Out Hunger, when multiple big trucks are needed.

Our projected costs are based on quotes for a 2019 International 4300 Durastar , 26 ' refrigerated box truck with lift-gate, but subject to change as we continue to evaluate options & possibilities:. They include a chassis, box and lift-gate, insulation and refrigeration unit, extended warranty and graphics and total \$140,000.

*This is our goal and ideal truck. Quotes are generally only valid for 30 days and the long-term nature of this fundraising effort means we may be in a new model year by the time funds are raised so the ultimate cost may be slightly higher. If we can't meet our challenge, we'll need to consider used vehicles. Ultimately, the vehicle we obtain will depend on the amount we raise.

Our Soup Bowl Benefit raised \$20,000 toward this project and an anonymous donor has offered us a challenge gift of \$65,000 IF we can raise the remaining \$55,000 by December 1. Since the annual meeting, we've raised enough to bring the goal down to \$47,000.

However—we must be careful to protect the income needed for our regular operations as we take on this challenge. We respectfully request that donors not replace their operating gift, but consider an additional gift to help with the challenge. We're also working with several donors to secure larger gifts because the sooner we meet the challenge, the sooner we can order the truck, which will take many months to build and deliver.

HHFB Hits it out of the park at the 2019 Annual Meeting!

On March 22, over 150 guests helped Hoosier Hills Food Bank celebrate the issue of our 2018 Annual Report and acknowledge our supporters, key staff members and a renewed commitment to fighting hunger and food insecurity. Board President Kevin R. Robling welcomed guests, acknowledged elected officials and reminded everyone that while we should celebrate our accomplishments we must also remember that they reflect a high level of need.



Our baseball themed event featured recognition of departing interns Karina Gutierrez and Steven Lee, who served as part of the Indiana Leadership Program for the past year as well as our two SPEA Service Corps Fellows, Michael Etter and Carl Woody, who are finishing up their two year stints with HHFB. We also commemorated the rookie year of Food Rescue Driver Bradley Drake and recent 5-year anniversary of Food Rescue Driver Will Bruce along with honoring the 10th Anniversary of Director of Development and Administration Jake Bruner. We also announced the promotion of Food Sourcing Coordinator Brandon Bartley to Manager of Food Sourcing and Food Policy.

Jake presented the annual report detailing our “grand slam” year that included the distribution of a record 4,876,808 pounds of food and the acquisition of a new refrigerated van, Regina. He reflected on the importance of how our team works together and includes not only staff but thousands of volunteers and other supporters in the community.

ED and CEO Julio Alonso formally announced that HHFB has acquired one of the buildings adjacent to our current property and will begin moving some aspects of our book fair and foodbanking operations in this June. Alonso reminded the crowd that since moving to our current facility in 2008 HHFB has doubled its output of food from 2.4 to 4.8 million pounds and that acquisition of the new building secures our place here for many years to come and provides numerous opportunities for improving capacity and efficiency over time. Julio also reported that HHFB is working on development of a new organizational strategic plan, “2020 Vision” to be released next year and is gathering input from many stakeholders.



Julio and Jake closed by revealing the day’s most exciting announcement – the 25th Anniversary Soup Bowl Benefit raised an additional \$20,000 to dedicate toward the purchase of a new high capacity refrigerated box truck which will ultimately cost \$140,000 – and an anonymous donor has pledged a challenge gift of \$65,000 if we raise the remaining \$55,000 by December 1. We’re two-thirds of the way to acquiring this brand new truck!!



2018-19 HHFB Staff





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Return Service Requested

Our Mission:

Hoosier Hills Food Bank collects, stores, and distributes nutritious food products to nonprofit organizations, which provide free feeding programs that serve both ill and needy families and individuals.

Taking the Hunger out of Poverty

Kroger Community Rewards Program

Shop at Kroger? Sign up today and part of your spending will come back to Hoosier Hills Food Bank! Just register your Kroger Plus card at the website below and Kroger will donate 2 percent of your bill to HHFB each time you shop. It takes just a second, and our ID number is AC012!

<https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>



Board of Directors:

Chuck Cooksey, Maurice Garnier, Chris Gray, Nancy Kaster, George Huntington, Jessica McClellan, Trina Mescher, Robin Mendyka, Adrian Reid, Margie Rice, Kevin Robling, Tom Ruemler, Scott Shackelford, Shelia Sines, Pam Van Zant

Staff:

Julio Alonso, Brandon Bartley, Willis Bruce, Jake Bruner, Bradley Drake, Michael Etter, Karina Gutierrez, Erin Hollinden, Ryan Jochim, Caleb King, Cory Lamping, Steven Lee, Ben Mescher, Donn Middleton, Casey Steury, Dan Taylor, Aubree Thomas, Saleem Tucker, Ashlynn Waldrip, Brad Williams, Carl Woody

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